



# Gennadeion News

A SPECIAL INSERT TO THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT ATHENS

## New Gennadeion Monograph Showcases Gennadius Manuscripts

The Gennadius Library and the Greek Paleographical Society recently joined forces to produce a beautiful volume on Greek manuscripts from the Library collections. Based on an exhibition and colloquium organized in May 2004 by former Gennadius Library Director Haris Kalligas and the President of the Paleographical Society, Maria L. Politi, the book marks a new beginning in the *Gennadeion Monographs* series and reinforces the ASCSA's commitment to bilingual publishing, as it is published in Greek and English.

The book, entitled "Exploring Greek Manuscripts in the Gennadius Library," was edited by Maria Politi and Eleni Pappa, and appeals to a scholarly and general public. It presents the in-



*"Exploring Greek Manuscripts in the Gennadius Library" was launched with a public presentation in Cotsen Hall on October 11, 2011.*

Photo: H. Akriviadis

trinsic beauty and value of some of the manuscripts assembled thanks to the vision and erudition of George Gennadius and

his son, Joannes. Eleven leading scholars illustrate the intriguing history of several manuscripts from the collection. ❁

## Papers Donated to Gennadeion Archives

Several recent donations to the Archives of the Gennadius Library shed light on literary and archaeological facets of nineteenth- and twentieth-century Greece.

Professor Nanno Marinatos donated her father's personal correspondence from 1929 to 1939. This small collection consists of about 500 letters, most from the time that Spyridon Marinatos was an Ephor of Antiquities on Crete, and the period (1937–1939) of his service as Director of Antiquities in the Ministry of Education before he was appointed professor of archaeology at the University of Athens.

The collection includes letters from important Greek and

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## Medieval Greek Summer Session a Success

With the aim to introduce students of a variety of backgrounds, disciplines, and fields to the development of Greek language and literature in the Byzantine period, the fourth Medieval Greek Summer Session was held in July 2011. The generous support of the A. G. Leventis Foundation provided full fellowships to the eleven participants (eight students from U.S. universities and three from European institutions).

Alexandros Alexakis of the University of Ioannina and Stratis Papaioannou of Brown Uni-

versity led morning sessions of close reading and translation of Byzantine texts and Greek palaeography. Afternoon tutorials permitted students to focus on their specific needs and interests whereas special sessions introduced them to the collections of the Gennadius Library.

Art historian Sofia Georgiadou, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois, assisted with visits to several museums and monuments in Athens, Ancient Corinth, Mystras, Thessaloniki, Hosios Loukas, and Delphi. ❁



*Sofia Georgiadou (second from left) speaking to the Medieval Greek Summer Session students at the Athenian Agora.*







*Seafloor II, Watercolor by Odysseus Elytis, 1988, 24 × 32 cm.*

## Clean Monday Benefit to Honor Elytis

The Gennadius Library's centennial celebration of renowned poet Odysseus Elytis continues in February 2012, when the Board of Overseers of the Gennadius Library and Friends of the Library will pay tribute to Elytis at their 12th Annual Clean Monday Benefit, to be held on February 27 at Kellari Taverna in New York City. Kellari's renowned Executive Chef Gregory Zapanitis will serve guests an exquisite Kathara Deftera feast marking the end of carnival and beginning of Lent.

Guests will be entertained by Gregory Maninakis and the Mikrokosmos Ensemble, who will perform the poetry of Elytis set to music by Yannis Markopoulos and Mikis Theodorakis. All proceeds from the celebration will support the general operation of the Gennadius Library.

For further information on tickets and tables, please contact J. Goble in the US Development Office (jgoble@ascsa.org or 609-683-0800 ext. 14). ☘

## Library Holdings On Display at Elytis Exhibition

The Gennadius Library joined in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Nobel laureate poet Odysseus Elytis (1911–1996), collaborating with the B. & M. Theodorakis Foundation for the Fine Arts and Music on a major exhibition entitled “The World of Odysseus Elytis: Poetry and Paintings” (September 22 – December 12).

Two hundred items from the Elytis Papers that the poet donated to the Gennadius Library's Archives in 1976 were lent to the exhibition. A whole floor of the exhibition at the Theodorakis Foundation showcased Elytis's collages and temperas from the Gennadius Archives. Manuscripts, books, medals, diplomas, correspondence, vinyl record albums, pamphlets, and personal documents complemented other displays in the show. Elytis's artwork explores recurring themes of his poetry—the sea, the sun, the korai, the angels—but also geometric and abstract compositions.



*Ioulita Iliopoulou lectures on Elytis in Cotsen Hall. Photo: H. Akriviadis*

The exhibition included letters of famous artists (Greek composers Mikis Theodorakis and Manos Hatzidakis) and poets (e.g., Paul Eluard, George Seferis, Yiannis Ritsos), even a humorous card written by children to congratulate the poet for the Nobel Prize in Literature awarded in 1979: “Congratulations and we wish you to get the Nobel prize every year!”

Representative artworks by leading Greek and foreign art-

ists that Elytis admired, such as Theofilos, Tsarouchis, Moralis, Fassianos, Picasso, and Matisse, along with the works of twenty contemporary Greek artists who have been inspired by Elytis, gave the show a unique brilliance.

On October 19, poet Ioulita Iliopoulou gave a lively lecture in Cotsen Hall entitled “Odysseus Elytis. Elements of a Poetic Identity.”

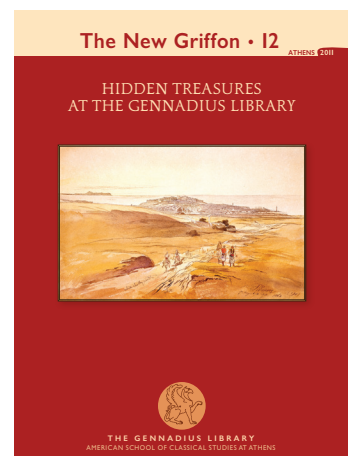
—Leda Costaki, Research Archivist

## New Griffon Shines Light on Hidden Treasures

The latest edition of *The New Griffon* (Volume 12), titled “Hidden Treasures at the Gennadius Library,” highlights several discoveries made recently among the Gennadius collections.

In this volume, Father Konstantinos Terzopoulos explores 16 manuscripts of Byzantine chant; Leonora Navari presents the published works of Cardinal Bessarion in the Gennadeion; Cristina Pallini dissects an early hand-drawn map of Smyrna; Pasquale Massimo Pinto considers the works of the nineteenth-century forger Constantinos Simonidis, a complete set of which was eagerly

sought by Joannes Gennadius; Stephen Duckworth follows Edward Lear's wanderings on Crete through a careful study of his watercolors; American School Director Jack Davis analyzes topographical drawings connected with the presence of the French in the Peloponnese in the early nineteenth century; Aliko Asvesta presents a wealth of information from the archive of cartographer Barbié du Bocage; Maria-Christina Chatziioannou explores the personal archive of Joannes Gennadius to paint a portrait of the Gennadeion's founder in the context of British society; and archivist Eleftheria Daleziou examines the



archives of Greek politician Ion Dragoumis, focusing on his exile on Corsica in the early twentieth century. ☘

## Gennadeion Director Lectures in New York

In May 2011, Gennadius Library Director Maria Georgopoulou presented her research on Venice and Byzantium at the Greek Consulate in New York. The illustrated lecture showed the imperial trophies that the Venetians took from Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade of 1204 and the efforts that the Republic of Venice made to emulate Byzantium at home. Ambassador Aghi Balta, Consul General of Greece to New York, hosted a reception at the Consulate sponsored by the Livanos Family and Chef Jim Botsacos of Molyvos and Sotiris Bafitis. ❀

## Events for 2012

Thanks to the generous support of Lloyd E. and Margit Cotsen, a diverse slate of lectures has been scheduled to take place at Cotsen Hall in 2012.

**February 14:** Alice-Mary Talbot of Dumbarton Oaks will lecture on “Women and Mt. Athos: Insights from the Archives of the Holy Mountain”

**March 13:** Stathis Kalyvas of Yale University will speak in Greek on “Resistance and Civil War”

**April 3:** Joanita Vroom of the University of Amsterdam will present a lecture on “Mr. Turkey goes to Turkey. How a Dutch Diplomat Wined and Dined in 18th-century Constantinople”

**May 8:** The 31st Annual Walton Lecture will feature Henry Maguire of Johns Hopkins University, who will speak on “Nectar and Illusion: Art, Nature, and Rhetoric in Byzantium”

**May 24:** Biographer Artemis Cooper will reminisce on “Patrick Leigh Fermor in Greece”

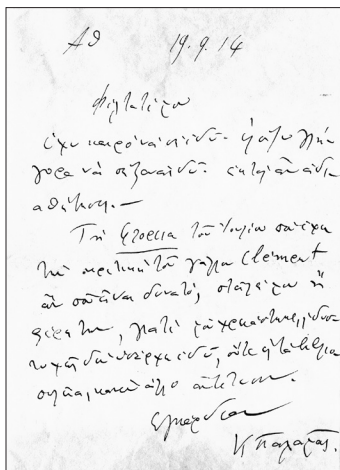
In addition to the lecture series, the Gennadeion’s *Philoï* will sponsor the Fifth Annual Bookfair on May 17.

## Mitropoulos’s Piano Sonatas Subject of New Book

Dimitri Mitropoulos’s compositions, kept in the Archives of the Gennadius Library, are explored in a detailed study by Ioannis Foulías, lecturer at the Department of Music Studies of the University of Athens. The book, published in Greek, is entitled *The Two Piano Sonatas of Dimitri Mitropoulos – From the Late Romantic Era to the Greek National School of Music* (Athens 2011). Dr. Foulías’s study focuses on the “Piano Sonata in E Flat major,” also known under the title “Η ψυχή μου” (“My Soul”), and the “Greek Sonata.” ❀

## Papers Donated

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### Kostis Palamas to Nikos Fandrides, 1914

foreign archaeologists including George Mylonas, Konstantinos Rhomaïos, Nikolaos Platon, Ioannis Meliadis, Georg Karo, R.W. Hutchinson, and W. Dörpfeld, as well as Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas. The collection also includes some earlier corre-

spondence with Stephanos Xanthoudides, another important Cretan archaeologist. During his service on Crete, Marinatos excavated important Minoan sites including the villa at Amnisos and the famous bronze hoard at Arkalochori, to mention just a few of Marinatos’ discoveries on the island. Nanno Marinatos has studied her father’s papers and is preparing a book, “Citizens of Minos,” which explores the relationship of the young Ephor Spyridon Marinatos with the doyen of Minoan archaeology, Sir Arthur Evans.

Professor Agne Vlavianou Arvanite has donated to the Archives of the Gennadius Library a small number of letters and books from poet Kostis Palamas to Nikos Fandrides.

A polyglot scholar, Fandrides published a number of studies about European philosophers and poets of the nineteenth century, and intended to make Kostis Palamas known in Eu-

rope. Unfortunately, his premature death in 1914 put an end to this plan.

The Palamas letters are on display in the main reading room of the Gennadius Library, thanks to archivist Eleftheria Daleziou, who prepared a handsome showcase.

In 2011, Eleni Kasolea donated the correspondence of her sister Antigone with poet Odysseus Elytis to the Archives of the Gennadius Library. Antigone Kasolea (1915–2010), philologist and high school teacher, translated Elytis’s poems into German, and for this she collaborated with archaeologist Barbara Vierendeis-Schlörb (some titles include *Oxopetra Elegien*. Westlich der Trauer 2001, *Das Monogramm* 1990, *Maria Nepheli* 1981, and *Körper des Sommers* 1960).

The collection consists of letters that Kasolea received from Elytis and of copies of letters that she sent to him in 1957–

1996. Her faithful devotion and admiration is also apparent in handwritten notes that she kept whenever they had an important conversation over the phone or after visits that she paid to him in the hospital. This interesting material sheds light into the process of translating poetry. Elytis himself wonders in one of his letters: “I am very curious how the content [of the translated book] will fare with the people of the North who have never in their lives listened to the cicadas nor have they ever stepped in a caïque” (6.8.1960). ❀

Gennadeion News pages are compiled by Gennadius Library Director Maria Georgopoulou, Senior Librarian Irini Solomonidi, Administrative Assistant Maria Smali, and Archivist Natalia Vogekoff-Brogan, and edited by Sally Fay.

This publication is produced semi-annually. E-mail correspondence for Gennadeion News to [ascsa@ascsa.org](mailto:ascsa@ascsa.org).